

NATURAL GAS TAX

(Mr. PFLUGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of my bill opposing the latest attack on American energy producers.

Crisis after crisis after crisis, and yet Democrats are pushing a natural gas tax that will reduce our GDP by \$9 billion, kill at least 90,000 jobs, and raise energy bills for every American.

In fact, every American family will pay nearly 20 percent more on their utility bills almost immediately. President Biden's out-of-control spending is already driving prices up on everything. We know that this is going to be the most expensive Thanksgiving in history. And now Democrats are desperately searching for new ways to squeeze even more money out of the American people to pay for Big Government projects.

A natural gas tax is a tax on every single American, and it will disproportionately hurt working-class Americans, farmers, and ranchers. President Biden's message in Europe is, American energy—never. Our message should be American-made energy is better than ever.

HONORING VETERAN PASTOR
GERALD MCGINNIS

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Pastor Gerald McGinnis as Tennessee's Second District Veteran of the Month.

Pastor McGinnis, a very dear friend of mine, served our country as a specialist in the United States Army during the Vietnam war. In 1968, his compound was attacked by approximately 1,500 North Vietnamese Army soldiers in the middle of the night. Despite the intense enemy fire, he fought off the North Vietnamese in defense of the three wounded American soldiers sheltering in his bunker.

Relentlessly defending that bunker saved Pastor McGinnis' life and all the lives of his fellow servicemembers. He was successful against all odds. Nearly 40 years later, he was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism. Last week, Pastor McGinnis was upgraded to the Silver Star in further recognition of his bravery.

Following his military service, Pastor McGinnis worked as a sheet metal worker for several years. He later decided that serving the Lord was his true calling and began studying theology. In 1980, he founded Park West Church of God in Knoxville, where he continues to serve.

Under Pastor McGinnis' leadership, the church has grown to serve a membership of over 2,000 Christians. He also

served as chaplain of the Knoxville-based divisions of the FBI and ATF, as well as the Knox County Sheriff's Department.

Pastor McGinnis serves his fellow veterans every chance he gets. A few years ago, he started raising funds to purchase a farm where veterans could go to receive counseling and study the Bible to help cope with their PTSD.

Thank you, Gerald, for your service to our country, your fellow veterans, and the Lord. I would say on a personal note, I was at the service and my dear friend, Jenny Stansberry in my home office, helped him get that Silver Star. All he talked about was his buddies that he left behind. He is a true hero, Mr. Speaker.

□ 1230

PARENTS' FIRST AMENDMENT
RIGHTS

(Mr. BERGMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Biden Department of Justice attack on our parents who advocate for their children to our local school boards. These efforts undermine the very foundation of our public schools. That is what they do.

We have recently seen an unprecedented level of local civic engagement allowing parents, teachers, and government officials to navigate our pandemic recovery and promote accountability in the classroom. However, this administration has responded by using scare tactics to prevent any criticism from parents against biased policies.

Parents don't want their children's educational development stunted by mask mandates or corrupted by critical race theory. What parents do want is a say in their children's educational futures without being threatened for exercising their First Amendment rights.

The Attorney General must immediately withdraw this memorandum.

I will continue fighting for a mom's or dad's right to make their opinion heard because that is the America our parents and students deserve.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARTER of Louisiana) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 2, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 2, 2021, at 9:46 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1064.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP
TRAINING ACT OF 2021

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3469) to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3469

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. BOOTS TO BUSINESS PROGRAM.

Section 32 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657b) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(h) BOOTS TO BUSINESS PROGRAM.—

"(1) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'covered individual' means—

"(A) a member of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves;

"(B) an individual who is participating in the Transition Assistance Program established under section 1144 of title 10, United States Code;

"(C) an individual who—

"(i) served on active duty in any branch of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves; and

"(ii) was discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable; and

"(D) a spouse or dependent of an individual described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C).

"(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—Beginning on the first October 1 after the enactment of this subsection and for the subsequent 4 fiscal years, the Administrator shall carry out a program to be known as the 'Boots to Business Program' to provide entrepreneurship training to covered individuals.

"(3) GOALS.—The goals of the Boots to Business Program are to—

"(A) provide assistance and in-depth training to covered individuals interested in business ownership; and

"(B) provide covered individuals with the tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to identify a business opportunity, draft a business plan, identify sources of capital, connect with local resources for small business concerns, and start up a small business concern.

"(4) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Boots to Business Program may include—

"(i) a presentation providing exposure to the considerations involved in self-employment and ownership of a small business concern;